



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Confirmation Number: 6219

Hiroshi TAKENO

Group Art Unit: 1722

Application Number: 09/926,202

Examiner: Matthew A. ANDERSON

Filed: September 24, 2001

Attorney Docket Number: 107242-00024

For: MANUFACTURING PROCESS FOR SILICON EPITAXIAL WAFER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: August 25, 2006

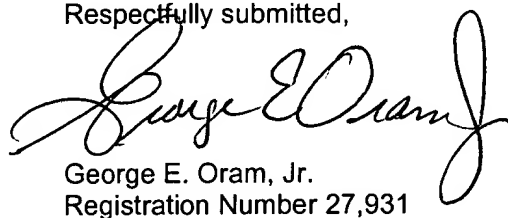
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information items listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the items be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. Check number _____ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number _____, as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicants hereby petition that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check number _____ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket Number _____, as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The references are cited in counterpart foreign application EP 01 90 1449. An English language version of the European Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. Copies of the U.S. patent references are not enclosed in view of the recent changes in U.S. patent rules effective October 21, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


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GEO:vmh

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08a
European Search Report
References (3)

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Form PTO/SB/08a

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/926,202
Filing Date	September 24, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi TAKENO
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	Matthew A. ANDERSON
Attorney Docket Number	107242-00024

Sheet	1	of	1
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.